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Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Algeria, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Samoa, Senegal, Spain, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Yugoslavia: revised draft resolution

Developments relating to the activities of the Centre for Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/135 of 15 December 1989,

Bearing in mind Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1989/46 of 6 March 1989 1/ and 1990/25 of 27 February 1990, 2/ as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/47 of 25 May 1990,

Considering that the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms is one of the basic aims of the United Nations according to the Charter of the United Nations and an issue of the utmost importance for the Organization,

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1/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 2 (E/1989/20), chap. II, sect. A.

2/ Ibid., 1990, Supplement No. 2 (E/1990/22), chap. II, sect. A.

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Recognizing that the work-load of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat has increased rapidly in recent years, while resources have failed to keep pace with the increase in its responsibilities, 3/

Noting that the difficult financial situation during the biennium 1990-1991 created considerable obstacles to implementing the various procedures and mechanisms, negatively influenced the servicing by the Secretariat of the bodies concerned and impaired the quality and precision of the reporting,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General 4/ and noting that in spite of the recognition that the responsibilities of the Centre for Human Rights have increased rapidly in recent years, no specific proposals have been made in the report as interim solutions for 1991 to the problems posed by the resource situation of the Centre, as requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1990/47,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to act promptly to respond to the needs of the Centre for Human Rights, 3/ and to make specific proposals as interim solutions to these problems for the current biennium for additional human resources, together with the related administrative and budgetary implications, to the General Assembly at its present session, not later than 10 December 1990, so that the budgetary process can be completed by the end of the current session;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, in conformity with his commitment 5/ to include in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 programme and resource proposals for long-term solutions to the problems posed by this situation, responding to the needs of the Centre for Human Rights and commensurate with its work-load, taking also into account the need to respond to the requests for advisory services and technical assistance, primarily from developing countries, the proposals contained in the report of the Task Force on Computerization, 6/ as well as in the study carried out by an independent expert on the effective implementation of international instruments on human rights; 7/

3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit an interim report to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-seventh session and a final report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution under item 12 of its agenda.

3/ See E/1990/50.

4/ A/45/807.

5/ E/1990/50, para 59.

6/ E/CN.4/1990/39.

7/ A/44/668, annex.